

**TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBE
NORTHERN CHEYENNE INDIAN RESERVATION
LAME DEER, MONTANA**

RESOLUTION NO. DOI-029 (2018)

A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR ALLOCATION OF TRANSITION FUNDING TO THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBE TO OFFSET ECONOMIC IMPACTS TO THE TRIBE RESULTING FROM THE CLOSURE OF THE COLSTRIP POWER PLANT.

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe is the governing body of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, located on the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation, in Rosebud and Bighorn Counties, Montana, pursuant to the Amended Constitution and By-Laws of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, as approved by the Secretary of the Interior on May 31, 1996;

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council is authorized under Article IV, Section 1(a), of the Tribe's Constitution to negotiate with federal, state, and local governments on all activities that may affect the Northern Cheyenne Reservation;

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council is authorized under Article IV, Section 1(e), of the Tribe's Constitution to engage in any business that will further the economic well-being of the members of the Tribe and to undertake any economic activity of any nature whatever not inconsistent with law or any of the provisions of the Tribe's Constitution;

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council is authorized under Article IV, Section 1(f), of the Tribe's Constitution to administer any funds within the control of the Tribe and to make expenditures from available funds for tribal purposes;

WHEREAS, the Colstrip Power Plant in Colstrip, Montana, and adjacent Rosebud Mine are located approximately 20 miles from the Northern Cheyenne Reservation, and have been recognized by the United States, State of Montana, and the owners of those projects as having a direct impact on the Northern Cheyenne Tribe's economy and environment;

WHEREAS, in the 1990s, the developers of units 1, 2, 3 and 4 (at the time Montana Power Company, Puget Sound Power & Light, Pacific Power & Light Company, Portland General Electric Company, Washington Water Power Company) and the Northern Cheyenne Tribe agreed upon programs to provide Tribal members with employment, training, and education, impact funding, and air quality monitoring;

WHEREAS, state permits for units 3 and 4 of the power plant have included conditions for the training and employment of Northern Cheyenne Tribal members, and federal air quality permits have required establishment of an ambient air quality monitoring program on the Northern Cheyenne Reservation;

WHEREAS, approximately 100 Tribal members are currently employed at the Colstrip Power Plant and adjacent Rosebud Mine, and in part due to the above-referenced programs, many of

which continue today, the Tribe receives other economic benefits tied to the continuing operation of these facilities;

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council acknowledges that units 1 and 2 at the Colstrip Power Plant are scheduled to cease operations in 2022, and the remaining units 3 and 4 may cease operations as early as 2027 due to the end of the useful life of these units, and that could end production at the Rosebud mine;

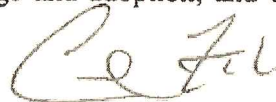
WHEREAS, the Northern Cheyenne Reservation suffers from extremely high unemployment, low per capita income, and persistent poverty, and these conditions will be exacerbated by the shutdown of the Colstrip Power Plant;

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council has determined it is necessary for the Tribe to prepare for the loss of employment opportunities for Tribal members at the Colstrip Power Plant and the Rosebud Mine and the loss of other benefits to the Tribe by seeking impact funding from the owners of the Power Plant;

WHEREAS, the Tribe is making plans to use impact funding for employment training programs in sustainable energy industries on the Reservation, as part of a long-term effort for economic development that is consistent with the Tribe's customs and spiritual beliefs;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Tribal Council of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe calls on the owners of the Colstrip Power Plant to allocate transition funds to the Northern Cheyenne Tribe to facilitate development of Tribal business enterprises and workforce retraining of Tribal members to offset impacts to the Reservation economy resulting from the closure of the Colstrip Power Plant.

PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council by 8 votes for passage and adoption, and 0 votes against passage and adoption, and 0 abstentions this 6th day of November, 2017.



Conrad Fisher, Acting President
Northern Cheyenne Tribe

ATTEST:



Melissa Lonebear, Secretary
Northern Cheyenne Tribe